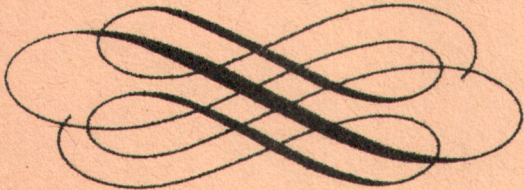


INTEGRITY

Philadelphia Newsletter

Volume One, Number 1

June 1, 1977



CALENDAR of events

Integrity/Philadelphia celebrates the Mass each Wednesday at 8 PM at St. Mary's Hall, 39th and Locust Walk. These are the celebrants for coming weeks:

- June 1.....The Rev. John Lenhardt
June 8.....The Rev. Phillip Wilson
June 15.....The Rev. John Scott
June 22.....The Rev. Carol Moore Chamberlain
June 29.....The Rev. Ron Wesner
July 6.....The Rev. Ralph Moore

Programs after Mass will be as follows:

- June 1.....Richard Keiser, on Gay Life in England
June 8.....Business Meeting
June 15.....Party
June 22.....Representatives from Presbyterian National Convention
June 29.....Open
July 6.....Donn Mitchell on the future of the Gay Community Center of Philadelphia

Hello!

This is the first issue of Integrity's local newsletter. Here are its goals: to inform the membership of Integrity of Integrity events; to present various views on current issues concerning gay people; to inform other Episcopalians of the activities and concerns of gay Episcopalians and their friends; and to provide an open forum for the expression of opinion by concerned persons on issues relating to the gay community.

We invite contributions: poetry, essays, articles, gripes, plaudits, sermonettes, and ideas. Please submit them to *Integrity*/Philadelphia, c/o St. Mary's Church, 3601 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

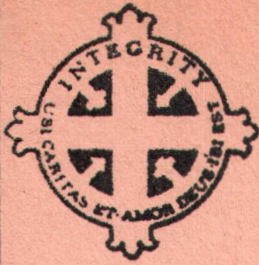
Name us

This paper, born June 1, 1977, is alive and kicking, but the parents have not yet decided on a name.

So turn on your creative juices and come up with a name for this editorial baby. There will be a prize—a surprise—for the winning entry. And, if you wish, your name will appear attached to our infant's name in the next issue.

Send your ideas by June 15 to *Integrity*/Philadelphia, c/o St. Mary's Church, 3601 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.





INTEGRITY

Philadelphia Newsletter

Volume One, Number 2

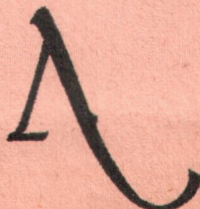
July 1, 1977

National Integrity Convention



Workshop topics and speakers for the National Integrity Convention have been released by Donald R. Bentley, national coordinator. The event is slated from Thursday, August 25 to Sunday the 28th at St Mary's Episcopal Church and at the Christian Association on the Penn campus. Speakers and topics will include:

Gothic Dimensions of the Gay Mystique
...Prof. William Kinter
Bisexuals/Married Gays
...Dr. William Stayton
Straight Talk About Gays
...The Rev. Ron Reed
Concerns of Rural Gay People
...Ms. Janet Cooper
Gay Seminararians and Ordination
...William Doubleday
Gay Counselling Concerns
...The Rev. Richard Young



Conveners' Panel...The Rev. John Lenhardt
Health Care of Gay People
...John Lawrence
Establishing and Maintaining an Ongoing
Relationship...John & Wayne Fortunato-
Schwandt
Educational Film presentation
...Ms. Barbara Gittings
Transsexuality...Ms. Roberta Dickinson
The Message of Feminism to the Church
and to the Gay Movement...Ms. Nancy Krody

Workshops are scheduled for Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.



This is the second issue of Integrity's local newsletter. Where are you??
We are waiting for your contributions; without them we can't continue. Our aims are: to inform our membership of Integrity events, to present various views on current issues concerning gay people, to inform other Episcopalians of our activities and concerns, and to provide a forum for dialog on personal and community concerns of gays.

Send your contribution (poem-essay-sermon-story) to: *Integrity/Philadelphia*
c/o St Mary's Church
3601 Locust Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19104



ANITA BRYANT:

THREAT?

or MENACE?

The following is an excerpt from a letter printed in the Philadelphia Bulletin from the Rev. John M. Scott of St Mary's Episcopal Church.

Anita Bryant has indeed captured the fascination of the media. The front-page, five-column spread complete with picture in The Bulletin June 8 sends a very unpleasant chill down my back...., the chill of recognizing the same mentality and emotions at work as in the society that willed injustice to blacks for so long and was present among the crowds who cheered Adolph Hitler not so long ago as he was proclaiming the Jews the scapegoats for the majority vote. The people of Philadelphia have recently given much attention to the study of the Holocaust, that event which Hitler spawned but which a majority of obedient Christians followed until six million Jews had been executed.

Now I know that Anita Bryant and her cohorts are not advocating execution for homosexuals; but tragedy begins small. Homosexuals did not come to be called 'faggots' for no reason: they have been burned at the stake. What seems at the moment to Anita Bryant and the majority who voted her line to be the height of moral uprightness can so easily become the outlet for the frustrations of a majority who gladly dump on and finally destroy a minority.

That is chilling. Are we yet capable of becoming a society which does not seek scapegoats and does recognize the rights of minorities, however distasteful? Are we so afraid that we cannot maintain our own standards without beating someone else? Fear, masked as righteousness, and put forth in the emotion of a crusade, has always had the potential of a bloodletting. That is the chill I feel.

It's an easy temptation to simply sloganize about Anita Bryant Green, or to return personal malice for her saccharined venom in a defensive, unloving, nonproductive manner, to laugh her off as just a particularly gaudy tassel on the lunatic fringe of American religion.

But to dismiss her so easily is to ignore that by exploiting people's fears and pandering to ignorance she has stimulated the dangerous human appetite for vengeful scapegoating. The Florida singer cloaks her false assertions and idiosyncratic opinions in a mantle of ostensible concern for human beings, but under the gloss of motherhood-and-orange juice morality the core of her message is this: *deny these "sad, sick, pathetic, unhappy" citizens their civil rights. Restrict their access to jobs and housing. Jail them for loving. "Help"(sic) them change into members of the "normal majority."*

The coming legislative battles will be of major importance to gay people and to all Americans who value freedom and privacy. But the issues are so laden with powerful, deep-rooted emotions that the spirit of reason and justice will be hard-pressed to carry the day. Americans for generations have been raised to ridicule, loathe and fear homosexuality and to apply ruthless and vicious stereotypes to gay people. Anita is far from the first to find Bible selections out of context a handy bludgeon for fagbashing.

But for anyone not blinded by emotional outrage or deafened by the strident cries of ignorant prejudice, I would suggest the following rebuttals to the few



discernible rational points offered by Mrs. Green:

(the following is taken from the NGTF Action Report)

She claims to represent the religious position, but resolutions supporting civil rights for gays have been passed by the National Council of Churches, the Episcopal Church, the United Church of Christ, the National Federation of Priests' Councils, the Lutheran Church in America, the Unitarian Universalist Association, and the Society of Friends (Quakers).

She claims that gays are "sick" but not only has the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its official list of mental disorders, it has also gone on record in favor of gay rights legislation.

She claims that gay teachers are dangerous to children, but the National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the United Federation of Teachers, and the American Association of University Professors have all passed resolutions favoring gay rights, and moreover there is not one complaint of the sort Bryant predicts, either from parents or students in the 39 U.S. communities where gay teachers have job protection.

In her brighteyed holy war against the subversion of the wholesome, sta-prest nuclear family, Bryant has evidently also chosen to ignore the conclusions of scholars in psychology, social anthropology, and Biblical studies.

Psychological theorists, for example, while remaining noncommittal regarding possible origins of the homosexual orientation, do attest that it is formed very early in life, probably by the third year, then reinforced more or less positively during childhood, adolescence and adulthood in a small percentage of individuals in virtually all known human societies. Furthermore as deep a thinker and as keen an observer of the human scene as Carl Gustav Jung testified to the positive value to society of its homosexual members, as models of friendship and tenderness, as sensitive teachers, human servants, and artists, often endowed with outstanding spiritual receptivity and reverence for God and for tradition.

It is an ironic impoverishment of Anita Bryant's own life that she has limited her knowledge of gay people to such a small if not imaginary segment of the gay population. If, for example, she knew my friend B., a gay charismatic missionary in Japan, or my friend F., who as a pediatric specialist is daily and directly involved in "saving children" perhaps her heart would warm toward us all a degree.

In her scripture-swinging zeal, Bryant ignores several well-established conclusions of Biblical scholarship: for example, Sodom and Gomorrah were not destroyed for "sodomy" but for breaking sacred codes of hospitality to desert wanderers. The Biblical authors had no concept of congenital homosexuality, or indeed of learned sexuality at all; in the various passages usually cited to prove the loving Father's hatred of perverts the condemnation is against those who joined the Canaanites in worshipping animal sexuality for its own sake in religious orgies, and against temple prostitution and anal rape. When the Biblical panorama is properly viewed, through the focal life and teachings of Jesus, it becomes clear that for the ethically concerned, sex is a power like others in nature to be used by human beings for the loving realization of personalities in relationship to one another and to God. Unfortunately the prevailing tide of Stoic philosophy largely submerged the Gospel ethic in the early Church, resulting in the adoption for hundreds of years of an attitude that pleasure is bad and that sexual pleasure is especially dangerous because it decreases one's willingness to be martyred.

Well, Anita Bryant and her citrus crusaders are sharpening their stakes for a nationwide series of bonfires. One may hope that their bigotry, their enthusiasm to exploit fear and ignorance, and their attempts to bury the real issue, the civil rights of American citizens, will not swell any ballot boxes where people are willing to open their minds and hearts to reality and not be seduced by the false security of the vendetta bandwagon.

Gary Byrne

The author is a former highschool teacher and runaway counselor.

CALENDAR of events

Integrity/Philadelphia meets each Wednesday at 8 pm for a celebration of the Eucharist, followed by a program. The meetings are held at St Mary's Church Parish House, behind the church at 3916 Locust Walk. Celebrants for this month are

The Rev. Ralph Moore - July 6
The Rev. Jim Ingles - July 13
The Rev. Paul Washington - July 20
The Rev. Larry Hardy - July 27

Programs will include

Donn Mitchell on the future of the Gay Community Center of Philadelphia (July 6)

John Mosteller on the gay tradition in Indian culture (July 13)

Representatives from Giovanni's Room, Philadelphia's original gay bookstore (July 27)

Opinions expressed in articles in this publication are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of either the local or national chapters of Integrity.

#####

National Gay Task Force (NGTF)
80 Fifth Av, NY 10011 (212) 741-1010

Gay Peer Counseling 243-8888

Gay Switchboard 978-5700

Amazon Country Sundays at 1 pm
Sunshine Gaydream Sundays at 2 pm
Gay radio in Philadelphia
WXPN 88.9 FM

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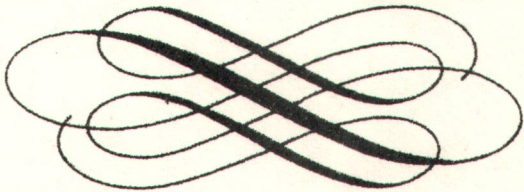


INTEGRITY

Philadelphia Newsletter

Volume One, Number 3

August 1, 1977



CALENDAR of events

Integrity/Philadelphia celebrates the Mass each Wednesday at 8 PM at St. Mary's Hall, 39th and Locust Walk. These are the celebrants for coming weeks:

August 3.....*The Rev. Ron Wesner*
 August 10....*The Very Rev. Stephen R. Billings*
 August 17....*Open*
 August 24....*The Rev. Carl Bell*
 August 31....*Open*

*Programs after Mass will be as follows:

August 3.....*GAMES NIGHT, Becky Fowler, leader*
 August 10.....*Open*
 August 17.....*Representatives from New Gay Life*
 August 24.....*Dramatic Readings of original poetry by Integrity members*
 August 31.....*Stephen Ellis, speaking on Gay People and Family Relationships*

God and Anita

Today I was trying to remember what the news in the gay newspapers a year ago was all about. It is as if we were waiting for Anita to emerge. She has occupied much of our thoughts, emotions and words, ever since January.

This week I saw a picture of a grim-faced, sour man carrying a sign saying, "Thank God for Anita Bryant." I think he was not aware of the appropriateness of the sign, or the inappropriateness of his carrying it.

I thank God for Anita. Not that God sent her to us. He sent her no more than he sends tornadoes, hurricanes or cancer. What he does send us through the Holy Spirit is courage, intelligence, the willingness to stand in the face of overwhelming opposition. God does not send the opportunities. God does send the ability to respond to events in our lives.

Anita is an event. She has emerged to be the incarnation of fear, ignorance, hatred, and inhospitability. Prior to her "coming out," it was hard to convince some gay people that they were oppressed. It was hard to convince some liberals that there were some serious issues affecting and damaging our lives. It was hard to convince the press that gay people were more than sexual grasshoppers challenging the humdrum lives of the straight ants.

It is easier now. Not only because of Anita, but also because God has been with us and helped many to see the issues for the first time. Thank God, not for Anita, but for the chance and strength to say YES! in the face of negative screams.

The Rev. Ronald D. Wesner



National Integrity Convention Nears

The theme of the 1977 National Integrity Convention, to be held August 25th to the 28th, is *Liberation Ethics: Responding to the Gospel*.

If you haven't registered yet, it's still not too late. However, after August 1, there will be a late registration fee of \$5, bringing the total cost up to \$40 for non-members and \$35 for members of Integrity/National.

There will be two keynote speakers addressing the Convention at 1 p.m. on Friday afternoon: Rev. Neale Alan Secor, Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Manhattanville, New York, and Ms. Noreen Carter, a member of the Massachusetts Commission on Gay Rights.

Please make every effort to attend the Convention. It offers an opportunity to get together, to learn and to share views and experiences. Anita has taught us one important lesson: it's time to unite!

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INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA

THE STEERING COMMITTEE

President Richard Keiser 349-7214

Secretary Carl Jester 748-6385

Treasurer W. John Oswald 828-2464

Correspondence to *Integrity/Philadelphia* should be addressed c/o Richard Keiser, 130 S. 39th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

HELPHELPHELP!!

With the frequent increase in postal rates, it costs more and more to mail papers like this newsletter. So we are asking that each recipient of the paper send a donation to help with this year's expenses. We are suggesting either \$3 or \$5. Clip and send the coupon below.

Enclosed find \$_____ to help defray expenses for this newsletter of Integrity/Philadelphia.

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THIRD NATIONAL INTEGRITY CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

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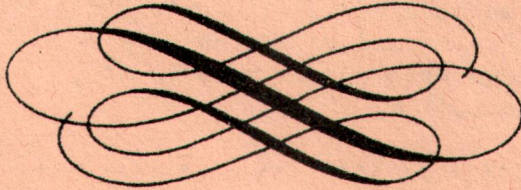


INTEGRITY

Philadelphia Newsletter

Volume One, Number 5

October, 1977



CALENDAR

Integrity/Philadelphia celebrated the Mass each Wednesday at 8pm at St. Mary's Parish Hall, 3916 Locust Walk, behind the church. Celebrants for October are:

October 5.....*The Rev. John Gramley*
October 12.....*The Rev. John Lenhardt*
 Carl Jester, preaching
October 19.....*The Rev. Ron Wesner*
October 26.....*The Rev. Jay Wilson*

Programs after Mass will be as follows:

October 5.....*Integrity Night at the*
 C&R Club, 63d & Market
October 12.....*Dramatic Readings by*
 Integrity members
October 19.....*Role-Playing for Booth*
 at Diocesan Convention,
 led by Roger Stephens
October 26.....*An Evening's Poetry*
 Workshop, conducted by
 Jay Wilson, described
 as follows:

Poetry as your way of telling your story, of shaping your Quest or Journey, of finding the dimensions of your own myth. This will be a relaxed open-ended evening with opportunities for participation as each person desires. Jay Wilson has worked in the Poets in the Schools program for the last six years and teaches at Phila. Community College. Please bring pencil and paper.

Sermonette

The Pharisees asked him, "When will the Kingdom of God come?" He said, "You cannot tell by observation when the Kingdom of God comes. There will be no saying, 'Look! Here it is!' or 'There it is!', for in fact the Kingdom of God is among you." Luke 17: 20-21

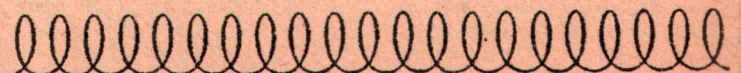
The Pharisees weren't the only ones who asked this question. The Disciples asked it many times. And we ourselves ask, "When will the Kingdom of God come?" Jesus answers us very simply--the Kingdom of God is here, among you. All you have to do is look for it.

And how does one look? Search it out...discover it?

We constantly hope that the Kingdom of God *will* come, that it is in the future, that the lion will lie down beside the lamb, that all races, colors, sexual minorities will be gathered into one. But Jesus was talking about something that all human beings, if they look about them, will discover. He was talking, not about gay rights or the freedom of black people from oppression, or the freedom of white people from sexism, racism, general oppression.

Jesus was talking about how the belief in Him shall set you free, free from the law of the Pharisees, free from oppression within oneself: He was talking about freedom from all the closets in which people are entrapped.

Jesus talked a lot about peace and about community. The Disciples, as you



know, ran away from Him at the crucial moment. The Pharisees had Him hanged on the cross, and the Romans placed Him up there. He suffered pain, sorrow; in fact He in His humanity thought he had lost the Father: "My God, my God why hast Thou forsaken me?"

But he never lost the inner faith in His own personhood. He might have on the surface, but never deep down. Because if He had lost His faith in His own personhood, He would never have been resurrected.

The Kingdom of God is here now because we in Integrity truly love one another. And to love one another we must love ourselves, and that sets us free.

If we truly love ourselves, one another, and God, we will be free from the inner oppression that often clings to us all. We will, as Jesus said, find that the Kingdom of God is indeed already come. And we will have the courage and the strength to fight for our freedom as homosexuals, because no matter if we are "hung on the cross", there is always the promise of the Resurrection, through Him who was resurrected, by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia!

The Rev. John E. Lenhardt

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INTEGRITY

Philadelphia Newsletter

Volume One, Number 6

November, 1977



CALENDAR of events

Integrity/Philadelphia celebrates the Mass each Wednesday at 8pm at St. Mary's Parish Hall, 3916 Locust Walk, behind the church. Guest celebrants in November are:

- November 2.....*The Rev. John Gramley,
All Soul's Celebration*
November 9.....*The Rev. John Lenhardt*
November 16.....*The Rev. John Lenhardt,
Richard Keiser preach-
ing*
November 23.....*Open*
November 30.....*The Rev. Ron Wesner*

Programs after Mass will be as follows:

- November 2.....*Poetry Reading by Jack
Veasey*
November 9.....*Business Meeting*
November 16.....*Gary Byrne on "Singles"*
November 23.....*Games Night*
November 30.....*Scarlett Emerson on
"Youth Ministry to
Gay People"*

ON DEPENDANT PEOPLE

Jesus must have been a lousy pastor. The Gospel for the 19th Sunday after Pentecost talked of his healing the ten lepers. They came to him for healing and he told them to show themselves to a priest. Certainly he was not sensitive to good pastoring! He refused to do all sorts of things which people expect from their clergy today. How far we must have come! He didn't sympathize with them at all. He didn't hold their hands. He didn't comfort them, give them a shoulder to cry on. He didn't cuddle them, hold them to his chest and weep over them.

And, if we can trust the Gospel account he didn't even cure them! Instead he allowed them to cure themselves. Through their faith. Quite possibly he allowed them to discover their own strengths and their own abilities to be whole and healthy persons.

With that sort of attitude he set a dangerous precedent. He allowed them to be independent of him. He did not set up a relationship in which they needed to come to him or anyone else for health. He allowed them to cure themselves and find within themselves the strength to be healthy adults. A dangerous principle indeed! Luckily the Church has been successful at counteracting such techniques.

The Church has come a long way since those primitive principles of pastoring. We have, since Jesus' time, learned to keep people in dependent, child-like relationships. We have learned to be the source of healing, even though we don't do it very well. But we have succeeded. We have a lot more dependent people than Jesus was ever able to accumulate.

He must have been a lousy pastor.

--The Rev. Ronald D. Wesner



GRAY HAIR AND THE EYES OF GOD

"Gray hair is a crown of glory,
and it is won by a virtuous life."
--Proverbs 16:31

When I started to write I thought that I would write about the joys of friendship, not necessarily about being friends with the elderly. But elderly men and women need friends also.

In our present society we put the elderly down. We put them on the shelf or "out to pasture." When a person is 65 or more we force him or her into retirement. Today gray hair is not revered as a crown of glory.

But the Author of Proverbs wrote that gray hair is a crown of glory. Why and when did the change come about?

Perhaps the "hoary head" in the Authorized Version is responsible for the cold chill we experience when we consider the approach of age.

Old age makes us think of the Grim Reaper and death. In spite of our hope of Glory we shudder in horror as we think of death. We think of death as the end instead of the beginning that Christ presents to us. (continued in Column Two)

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.....

If death is the beginning as Jesus teaches, then old age is a transition--a passing from good to better. There is a common saying that we are not getting old, we are getting better.

If the aged are getting better why do we discriminate against the elderly? Why do we prefer youth, young friends?

Do you have any elderly friends? Do you take time to listen to an elderly person when he feels he must talk to someone? Do you talk to them when they are feeling alone?

I have spent some time with elderly people. It can be a very rewarding experience. They have so much to say! So much to share!

Recently I was speaking with an older man. It was not hard to imagine that I was looking into the eyes of God--perhaps I was!

--N. Ronnie Hawthorne

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integrity/philadelphia

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 1979

April Business Meeting: There were actually two business meetings, the first on March 28 and the second on April 4th. The first meeting was called to decide questions of future structure, particularly to decide whether or not we wanted to elect co-convenors or a single convenor. The group decided to continue with a single convenor, a treasurer and our chaplains (two, currently), but expressed a general desire to involve more of its members in the workings of the chapter. In other words, the convenor, according to the sentiments expressed, should act as a coordinator of activities and functions, making decisions when necessary after consulting with the officers and chaplains. Several of the areas where members felt that more group involvement is possible are: (1) the newsletter and (2) the organization of our weekly or biweekly programs. The March 28th meeting ended after nominations for the position of Convenor were accepted.

The April 4th business meeting began with the election of David Lauer as Convenor. Following an elaborate installation ceremony characterized by considerable pageantry and emotion the meeting turned again to our discussion of group identity. The general concept expressed by the group was that we need to continuously emphasize openness; that each of us needs to take an active part in welcoming new members and involving them (and ourselves) in the workings of the chapter. We needn't worry about the number of people attending our services but rather the depth of involvement of those that do. Of course we should welcome anyone, no matter how much or how little they can or wish to participate.

Parish Outreach (Outrage?) Program: We are planning to begin periodic visits by groups of our members to certain parishes in order to acquaint more people in the Diocese of Pennsylvania with our organization and our goals. A letter has been sent to Bishop Ogilby asking him for approval of our efforts and the first letters of inquiry are going out to local parishes. Hopefully we can have our first "visitation" in late May. More details on this subject will be supplied at the May business meeting.

Programs: (1) Past: (a) Father John Scott, Rector of Saint Mary's Church and a member of the Diocesan Commission on Homosexuality spoke to us on March 28 concerning the recently completed report of this Commission. Father Scott feels that the report does not emphasize positive commitment toward making a full place in the Church and society for gay people and is submitting a separate minority report with some other members of the commission. (b) On April 12 Barbara Gittings, chairperson of the Gay Liberation Task Force of the American Library Association gave an interesting talk on her involvement in Gay rights movements, including some moving letters that she has received from gay persons


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philadelphia, pa. 19104
(215) 726-1089

around the country.

- (2) Future:
- (a) April 25 - Lee Lemmon, one of our own members, will discuss "the Gentle Hooker and his followers; a look at the Anglican Ethos"
 - (b) May 9 - Ann Butchart, current president of Dignity/Phila., will discuss the past history and present activities of Dignity, one of our sibling organizations.
 - ** (c) Sunday, May 13 A number of us will be attending the Dignity Service at Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church at 20th & Spruce Sts. Come with us if you can. More info. at the May business meeting.
 - (d) May 23 : John Lenhardt will lead his "encounter style" program that was originally scheduled for Feb. 14th. To quote from Samuel Johnson's previous newsletter: "Past experience has shown that leading such exercises is one of John's strengths and the chapter has gotten alot of benefit from them in the past."

Don't forget: Jacques Brel is Alive and Well... in the parish hall of Saint Mary's on May 4th & 5th. Tickets will be available through Saint Mary's office in the Christian Association, 3601 Locust Walk.

It is an honor to have been chosen convenor. I look forward to a productive and enjoyable "term." Peace!



David M. Lauer

integrity/philadelphia

JUNE - JULY 1979

FREE

closing date for
August: July 15

CALENDAR: THE EUCHARIST EACH WEDNESDAY, ST. MARY'S CHURCH, 3916 LOCUST

- July 4 fireworks at Art Museum following Eucharist (weather permitting)
July 11 JULY BUSINESS MEETING following Eucharist (all welcome)
July 18 party at John Lenhardt's following Eucharist, bring dessert and/or drinks
July 25 John McKenney, visiting professor at Penn (Ethics and Social Ethics) will give talk on "Sexual Ethics" following Eucharist
August 1 AUGUST BUSINESS MEETING following Eucharist
August 8 no program scheduled
August 15 "Getting To Know You" with John Lenhardt following Eucharist
Sept 6-9 INTEGRITY/NATIONAL convention, Denver, CO (see notes)
Oct 19-21 PRIDE '79 conference, Pittsburgh PA, call John Marquette for more information (222 1666)
Oct 26-28 DIGNITY/CHICAGO conference, John Marquette for more information
Nov 3 retreat at St. Margaret's House, 5419 Germantown Avenue, call Don McCarthy for more information (471 3796)

THE CHAPTER: June Business Meeting

Governor Thornburgh and Gay Pride Week

Governor Thornburgh's declaration of "Gay Pride Week" (June 24 - 30) and the ensuing ruckus were well-publicized in the local media. There were numerous letters sent to the Bulletin and the Inquirer by "righteous" Pennsylvanians denouncing the Governor's decision. The chapter authorized a letter of thanks to the Governor for his action, and also authorized a positive letter-writing campaign to local newspapers. In addition, the chapter recommended that individuals send their own supportive letters to the Governor. (Governor Dick Thornburgh, State Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120) Copies should also be sent to Tony Silvestre, Eromin Center, 1735 Naudain St., 19146 as he is the chairperson of the Governor's Council on Sexual Minorities. John Marquette used chapter funds to provide stationery and postage for support letters. The campaign was a success, with INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA generating almost 100 letters supporting the proclamation.

Recommendation of the Episcopal Standing Commission on Human Affairs and Health

The resolution passed unanimously by the commission received wide press coverage. The resolution is attached. The question of "wholesome" is left unanswered by the commission, perhaps for the sake of unanimity. Item 4 ("clergy are expected to render compassionate... pastoral care to homosexual(s), but not to promote or foster... (homosexuality) as a generally-acceptable alternative for Christians" may be the least palatable part of the resolution as a whole. The New York Times stated that the commission suggests that lesbians and gay men

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349-7214 or 222-1666

"might have 'an abnormal obsession with homosexuality', aggressively demanding 'gay' rights and seeking church blessing on their

'marriage'.". Such people "are not competent and qualified to be ordained, nor to be seen as an authentic alternative sexual model." John Lenhardt has a copy of the report by our Diocesan Commission on Homosexuality. Contact him if you would like a photocopy -- cost about \$2.50.

Venture-in-Mission Contributions

The chapter will make a cash donation to V-i-M with the amount to be decided on at the July business meeting. This plan was chosen rather than the alternative suggestion of pooling our individual pledges and submitting them through St. Mary's parish. Individual members would still make contributions through their home parishes. Ray Barber suggested that the chapter identify long-term goals in regard to our future financial contributions. Jim Ingles suggested that the chapter tithe (i.e., 1/10th of income) to all Christian concerns, not just gay concerns. V-i-M is the start of this suggestion.

The "Cabal"

In order to implement decisions made by the chapter at business meetings, the chaplains, treasurer and convenor will meet once a month over dinner. This gathering will occur shortly after the business meeting, not before, to avoid the appearance or reality of making decisions that should properly be made by the whole chapter.

INTEGRITY/NATIONAL Convention, Denver, CO, September 6 - 9

At least three persons volunteered to represent the chapter at the National Convention. We therefore decided to raise as much money as possible to send a representative. Fund-raising will be coordinated by Tawn Stokes, and we will discuss the subject at the July meeting. Please come if you can lend a hand.

Chapter Retreat

A retreat for chapter members is being planned for the fall at St. Margaret's House in Germantown (see calendar). If you would like to participate and/or have ideas for a type of retreat, call Don McCarthy. The cost will be about \$12.00, but bear inflation in mind. We wish to keep the cost as low as possible and we may be able to give at least partial aid to those not able to shoulder the full fee.

NATIONAL AND LOCAL NOTES

- John Oswald wishes to thank members of Integrity for their expressions of sympathy upon the death of his father.
- annual recipients of INTEGRITY/NATIONAL awards for 1979: Rt. Rev. C. Kilmer Myers, Bishop of California; Virginia Millenkott and Letha Scanzoni, co-authors of Is the Homosexual My Neighbor?
- National Convention plans: Rev. Ms. Carter Heyward (one of first women ordained in the Episcopal Church), keynote speaker; Rev. Richard Kirker, deacon of the Church of England and Administrative Secretary of Gay Christian Movement (England); William Stringfellow, lawyer and member of Episcopal Peace Fellowship; Rev. Stacy Cusulos, one of first lesbians ordained in UCC; Rt. Revs. Wesley Frensdorff (Nevada), Otis Charles (Utah), Edmond L. Browning (Hawaii) will preside at opening of convention
- PLEASE CONTACT NEWSLETTER EDITOR OR CONVENOR IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER LISTED IN THE CHAPTER DIRECTORY

JOINT COMMISSION ON THE CHURCH IN
HUMAN AFFAIRS AND HEALTHRECOMMENDATION

In accordance with the instructions of the General Convention issued at Minneapolis "to study in depth the matter of the ordination of homosexual persons and report its findings, along with recommendations, to the Church-at-large for study (and especially to the Bishops, Standing Committees, Commissions of the National Church) to the next General Convention," the Standing Commission on Human Affairs and Health unanimously offers the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, the House of _____ concurring, that the following statements represent the mind of the General Convention:

1. There are many human conditions which bear upon a person's suitability for ordination. Some of these are in the area of sexuality.
2. The various homosexual adaptations result, in some cases, in behavior which most Christians regard as abnormal, immoral, and/or anti-social. Such behavior, as in the case of some expressions of heterosexuality, constitutes a disqualification for ordination.
3. The question, with regard to any ordinand, is whether he or she can and will lead a life which is a wholesome example to Christ's flock. There should be no barrier to the ordination of those homosexual persons who are able and willing to conform their behavior to that which the Church affirms as wholesome. Some homosexual persons can so conform their behavior and have done so, some even as they have acknowledged their homosexuality, while others cannot or will not.
4. Clergy are expected to render compassionate and understanding pastoral care to homosexual individuals, but not to promote or foster a homosexual adaptation as a generally-acceptable alternative for Christians.
5. The General Convention should enact no legislation which singles out a particular human condition and makes of it an absolute barrier to ordination, thus depriving Bishops and Commissions on Ministry of the proper exercise of their discretion in the particular cases for which they are responsible.

CALENDAR/AUGUST 1979

THE EUCHARIST EACH WEDNESDAY, 8PM, ST. MARY'S CHURCH, 3916 LOCUST WALK

following the EUCHARIST:

August 1 Business meeting
August 8 Social hour
August 15 Rev. John Lenhardt, "Getting to Know You"
August 22 Social hour
August 29 Donn Mitchell, INTEGRITY/NATIONAL general secretary, presents a preview of the Integrity National Convention at Denver
Sept 5 Business meeting
Sept 6-9 INTEGRITY/NATIONAL CONVENTION, Denver, CO
Sept 12 Social hour
Sept 19 John Cunningham, author of A Way of Love, A Way of Life, talks about gay and lesbian teenage literature
Sept 26 Report on Integrity convention and the Episcopal Church's General Convention
Oct 19-21 PRIDE'79 conference, Pittsburgh, PA
Nov 3 Retreat/"Quiet Day" at St. Margaret's House, 5419 Germantown Avenue, call Don McCarthy, Program Director, for more information (471 3796)

JULY BUSINESS MEETING 7/11/1979

We began the business meeting immediately after the 8pm Eucharist. Ray Barber, Treasurer of INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA, reported our financial status for June (see Treasurer's Report, page 2).

This issue of the newsletter includes a postcard which, when completed and returned, will indicate to the editor and the chapter officers the continued interest of the addressee. (We have more addressees than active members at this time and we wish to bring our expenses more closely in line with our actual needs.) John Marquette has been investigating the possibility of a bulk mail rate for the newsletter, which would become cost-effective for the chapter after we would reach a monthly volume of 100 copies. He is currently surveying the newsletter editors and secretaries of the other three major gay/lesbian religious groups in the Philadelphia area (Dignity, Metropolitan Community Church and Congregation Beth Ahavah) to see if we could jointly distribute our newsletters, sharing the bulk rate and printing costs. Ann Butchart, president of Dignity/Philadelphia, would be pleased to participate in an ecumenical meeting with interested members of INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA, MCC and Beth Ahavah. If you are interested as well, volunteer at the August business meeting.

OUTREACH: There are four main points which INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA should think about when considering an outreach program. They are: internal and external communications (opening up lines both within and outside of our chapter); community and parish visitation/outreach to other Episcopalians, to women, and to residents of the West Philadelphia community and the Delaware Valley; lobbying; and new chapter assistance. Outreach is impossible for one or two persons (how far can one person's arms stretch?): would you like to help?

RETREAT: Can anyone think of a Retreat (or "Quiet Day") Master/Mistress for our November 3rd retreat? The reverend William Fox was not willing to help us due to exigencies of time, distance, gasoline, etc. ... if you can suggest a name, contact Don McCarthy at 471 3796.

FUND RAISING: Tawn Stokes recommended that any fund raising to send a delegate to the National Convention be done in the fall. The shared thought was for a luncheon, dinner, or Sunday brunch in St. Mary's Parish Hall. We would split the profits on a fifty-fifty basis with the church. The chapter's choice of delegates would be, in order of priority, 1) David Lauer, Convenor; 2) John Lenhardt, Chaplain; and 3) Jim duPont-Crosson-Price-Wortman, Active Member.

DUES PAYING: Treasurer Ray Barber suggested that we reconsider our policy of paying national dues for new members after just one month of attendance. The chapter decided that dues would be forwarded to the national office after six months of active local participation.

INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA -- LESBIAN AND GAY EPISCOPALIANS AND THEIR FRIENDS

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F R E E

CHAPTER NOTES

Dignity and Beth Ahavah have discussed sponsoring buses to and from the National March on Washington on October 14. They would like INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA and MCC to join them in their effort. Our participation would most likely extend to an affirmation of support and the sale of bus tickets to chapter members. Dignity would also like to assemble an interdenominational booth on Super Sunday (clumsily scheduled for October 14th). Would you like to help with these projects? We will need one or two people for the Super Sunday booth, and one person to co-ordinate the sale of tickets and the collection of money for the Washington-bound buses. It is most important that the rally in Washington be well-attended, and that Philadelphians make an extremely good showing (remember, we hosted the national committee when they came to Philadelphia in February '79 to plan the march). It should be a great day in the nation's capital. People who went to the Anti-Nuclear Power Rally all had a great time -- "...it was the sixties all over again..."

Richard Keiser and John (Oz) Oswald represented INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA at the Metropolitan Community Church's farewell and tribute to the Reverend Don Borbe on Sunday, July 22. Don is leaving Philadelphia to serve his church in Portland, Oregon. John Lenhardt offered the Invocation and Jim Ingles gave the Benediction.

IN MEMORIAM: James Eugene duPont Crosson-Price-Wortman would like to thank the members of INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA who demonstrated their love of Christ by supporting him with love and prayer after the sudden, tragic deaths of his friend Edward and his godson Harry.

NATIONAL NOTESPRIDE '79 UPDATE:Pennsylvania Lesbian/Gay Support Network

PRIDE '79, the annual conference sponsored by the PL/GSN, begins October 19 in Pittsburgh. This year's theme, "Our Space for Growth", includes "Personal Growth", "Sister/Brother Space" and "Community Growth". Health concerns are a major part of PRIDE '79, with special emphasis on alcoholism, "the lesbian/gay disease". Participants in the conference will have a chance to study the variations in Pennsylvania's lesbian and gay cultural strata. Series I, "Personal Growth", is designed to provide possible solutions to gay men and women who come out in rural Pennsylvania, to gay and lesbian parents, to transvestites and transsexuals, and to bisexuals and victims of racism. Series II and III, "Sister/Brother Space" and "Community Growth" will cover ground common to both gay men and lesbians. The planners of PRIDE '79 have arranged for Pat Bond, WW II veteran and star of the award-winning film, "Word Is Out", to entertain on Friday or Saturday. For more information, call the Gay Switchboard, 929 1919 or George at 222 5110.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GAY/LESBIAN ISSUES, Oct 26-28, Chicago, IL

The keynote speakers at the Chicago conference will be Rita Mae Brown, author of Rubyfruit Jungle and Allan H. Spear, a senator in the Minnesota Legislature. John J. McNeill will talk about "Gay Women and Men and Spiritual Development". Barbara Gittings will give two presentations: "The Hungry Gay Bookworm", about homosexuals in modern literature, and "Setting Parents Straight About Growing Up Gay": breaking the news to parents. For more information, call Jim Littrell at the Christian Association or John Marquette (222 1666).

INTEGRITY/HARTFORD

Jim Shafer, Convenor of the Hartford chapter of Integrity, reports that five chapter members, including Canon Jones, will be going to the National Convention in Denver. He asks that we remember them in our prayers.

* * *

INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA
c/o St. Mary's Parish Office
3601 Locust Walk, Christian Assoc.
Philadelphia PA 19104

TREASURER'S REPORT

balance forward		\$151.45
income (offerings)	47.75	
expenses		
newsletters -- July and August	36.09	
St. Mary's Church	42.45	
dues and refreshments	18.06	
	<u>\$96.60</u>	
closing balance, June 30, 1979		\$102.60

THE ENCLOSED POSTCARD...

is our method of updating the mailing list. We have a number of names on the chapter mailing list that we can't connect with faces -- to those faceless names still care? Do they (do you?) want to continue to receive INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA's monthly newsletter? If you do, please fill out the postcard and return it, indicating whether or not you want your name and address to appear in the chapter directory. If you have moved, give us your new address.

integrity/philadelphia

SEPTEMBER 1979
FREE

THE CALENDAR/SEPTEMBER 1979

THE EUCHARIST EVERY WEDNESDAY, 8PM, ST. MARY'S CHURCH, 3916 LOCUST WALK

following the EUCHARIST:

- | | | |
|------|-------|---|
| Sept | 5 | Business meeting, 9pm, Parish Hall |
| Sept | 6-9 | Integrity Inc. Convention, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Denver, CO (see "September Comment") |
| Sept | 12 | Social Hour, 9pm, Parish Hall |
| Sept | 19 | Frances Hanckel and John Cunningham, co-authors of <u>A Way of Love, A Way of Life</u> , 9pm, Parish Hall (see "September Comment") |
| Sept | 26 | Report on Integrity Inc. Convention and Episcopal Church General Convention by Donn Mitchell, 9pm, Parish Hall |
| Oct | 14 | Gay Ecumenical Booth at Super Sunday (more details at Sept 5th business meeting) |
| Oct | 19-21 | PRIDE '79 conference, Pittsburgh, PA (John Marquette, 222-1666) |
| Nov | 3 | "Quiet Day" at St. Margaret's House, 5419 Germantown Avenue (contact: Don McCarthy, 471-3796) |

SEPTEMBER COMMENT

Ah, Summer. Attendance at our Wednesday Eucharist has been erratic -- sometimes great, sometimes sparse. But all of you have probably been having a great time, whether you've been at the mountains, by the sea, or just on a chaise longue in your back yard. Some Integrity faces pop up at Dignity's Mass every so often -- on August 19th I saw Don McCarthy, Ronnie Hawthorne and Scotty. We're lucky to have our sister organization so friendly and so conveniently located.

We're doing some work on finding a center city location for a Saturday night Eucharist. Trinity Memorial Church at 2212 Spruce Street is our first-choice site. The ball's in their court now -- I sent them a letter with the proposal a few weeks back. If we can't gather there, there are a few other places where we might be able to get space. If you have any ideas, please bring them up at the September 5th business meeting immediately following the Eucharist in the Parish Hall.

Frances Hanckel and John Cunningham, co-authors of A Way of Love, A Way of Life (to be published by Lothrop, Lee, and

Shepard in September) will speak with Integrity members and guests on September 19th at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Frances is a hospital administrator, and was appointed to the Pennsylvania Governor's Council on Sexual Minorities. John is a librarian, and has worked extensively with Philadelphia's telephone counseling and referral service, and Gay Switchboard. Ray Barber has obtained an advance copy of their book, and has reviewed it. You'll find it somewhere in this newsletter. We're very lucky to have them speak with us, so get your questions ready, and look for their book on bookstore shelves after the middle of September.

Our Convenor, David Lauer, will be returning to Philadelphia this September. We hope to see him at the September 5th business meeting. Please remember him in your thoughts and prayers -- his trusty VW was totaled in Florida. He's unhurt, but the loss of such a dear acquaintance may change his travel plans. He's been an intern at the Corkscrew Bird Sanctuary in Coral Gables, Florida, so he may return to us with a magnificent tan.

INTEGRITY INC.'S
NATIONAL CONVENTION

The 1979 National Convention of Integrity Inc. will be held September 6 - 9 at St. Thomas Church in Denver, Colorado. The Convention immediately precedes the General Convention of the Episcopal Church at which gay issues will be among topics for action and debate. (Editor's note: see elsewhere in this issue for a copy of the New York Times's article about the Episcopal Church's confrontation with the topic of homosexuality).

Integrity Inc. President John C. Lawrence will welcome delegates with an introductory address. The convention itself will begin on Friday morning with a worship service at St. Thomas Episcopal Church at which several bishops will preside. The Right Reverend Wesley Frensdorff, Bishop of Nevada, will be the principal celebrant and presiding officer of the worship service. The Right Reverend Otis Charles, Bishop of Utah, will preach and the Right Reverend Edmond L. Browning, Bishop of Hawaii, will concelebrate. All the clergy women and men of Integrity present at the convention will join in the Eucharistic Celebration.

The Reverend Ms. Carter Heyward, one of the first women to be ordained in the Episcopal Church and the author of the book, A Priest Forever, will be the keynote speaker. The founder of Integrity, Louie Crew, Ph.D., will address the delegates at the Friday evening banquet. Dr. Crew is an author and a professor of English at Fort Valley State College in Georgia.

NEWS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

-- The Episcopal Gay Society - Integrity/ New York City meets Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm. Their newsletter didn't say where they meet, however. To get more information on their Eucharist, call Mason Martens at (212) 873-7443 Monday through Friday 10am to 2pm and evenings. --

-- MCC/Pittsburgh meets at Fifth Avenue and Bellefield Sundays at 7:30pm. Call them at (412) 521-4560. --

A WAY OF LOVE, A WAY OF LIFE: A YOUNG PERSON'S INTRODUCTION TO WHAT IT MEANS TO BE GAY, by Frances Hanckel and John Cunningham. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1979. \$7.95

When after 40 years of wandering in the desert the Israelites approached the Promised Land, scouts were sent out to reconnoiter across the Jordan River. Upon returning to camp they reported that the land was rich and beautiful but that it was well fortified and that there would be many obstacles to overcome before it would be theirs. In providing a survey of gay life for teenagers, Frances Hanckel and John Cunningham bring back similar reports. It is possible to live a full, rich life as a gay teen and later as an adult, but this will not always come with ease. There are frequently obstacles such as rejection, lack of understanding, isolation, and sometimes dissatisfaction with oneself. However, these can be overcome and one can live a normal, rich satisfying life. Up to the publication of this book one of the obstacles has been the lack of any non-judgmental book on gay life directed at the young gay person.

One of the hardest things about becoming an adult is achieving a positive, unique identity as an individual. One of the major components of this self-image is sexual identity. This is a landmark in its affirmation that gay is a way of living as well as a way of loving, and that being gay means loving yourself as you are, and not as others would wish, or expect you to be. While covering sexuality, relationships, health problems, sources of help and an introduction to gay activist groups, the authors do not say what is right or wrong for the individual but provide a matter-of-fact, comprehensive survey of gay life.

Often books on sexuality for teens do not manage to avoid the Scylla of moral sentimentality or the Charybdis of mechanistic sex. A Way of Love avoids this by presenting brief biographies of 12 gay teens. These enrich, even make the book. This book is essential to any teen examining his or her own sexual orientation or, for that matter, to any young person who would be a loving, understanding member of society.

Raymond W. Barber, Ph.D.

EXCERPT FROM "THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON:
WHO WILL PICK UP THE PIECES?" by David
P. Fair

The March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights survived the bitter, confused weekend of its birth in Philadelphia last February. But it has become no better organized; no more unifying. And it still fails far short of "historic," unless it fails, in which case it will represent an historic failure for the movement, and an historic waste of the time, energy, talents and money of the numerous activists who are being blackmailed into working on it.

Nobody knows how much a successful march on Washington costs in dollars. (A NOW spokesperson once estimated the cost of the ERA March at between 12 and 15 million dollars.) Nobody knows how much the cost is in energy spent in building the march. But everybody knows that national marches are major expenditures of all these things, which is why so few of them succeed.

The fact that a successful national march would be "exhilarating" is beyond question, but is there really reason to believe that the march will be successful? And is that temporary exhilaration much different from that experienced by activists in the course of any other successful project they achieve, or the local gay pride celebrations that they hold? And if the post-October exhilaration would be different, would it be different enough to be worth the price?

If 40,000 gays and lesbians from Philadelphia go down to Washington in October I'll know it will have cost almost half-a-million dollars to get them there; and I'll know how much better used that money would be if put to use in our own organizations and for our own, known purposes. If thousands of dollars are raised in benefits for the March on Washington I'll know that the Community Center, the Eromin Center, the Walt Whitman Club, the Task Force, and the numerous other organizations in the city will suffer in their own fundraising as a result. If hundreds of people suddenly turn up to help organize the March I'll know that we'll be losing that energy in the current mayoral campaign; we'll be losing it in organizing against the landlords that snubbed Giovanni's Room; and we'll be losing it forever if the March turns out to be a dud.

Unless the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights miraculously develops a purpose in the few weeks remaining, I cannot support it. And I recommend to anyone who is concerned about the "New Right," who is concerned about protecting themselves from the votes of Wichita and the rest, who is ready to build our community into a position of strength and courage and visibility that will win us our freedom, that they not support it, either.

After all, we have work to do.

(David Fair is one of the founders of the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force and the Philadelphia Gay Cultural Festival.)

WITH THE HELP OF THE SPIRIT: PHILADELPHIA'S GAY ROMAN CHARISMATICS by
John Marquette

I don't know how I happened to walk north on 12th Street last night, or why. But as I passed Dignity House I saw lights on inside. I wanted to find out more. It was 7:40pm. Three men were sitting in a circle. They greeted me, introduced themselves individually, then collectively: they were the first three people to arrive for the weekly charismatic meeting. I told them I was from Integrity, and that I was thinking about doing a story on gay charismatics. They were enthusiastic, and after telling me a bit of the group's history, we began the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary.

With each successive Mystery, another few people came in. By the end of the rosary, there were ten of us in the circle. We introduced ourselves again and began the meeting.

"We begin," the leader said, "by lifting our burdens, sadness and joy to the Lord." He offered his burden -- his sorrow about the lawsuit brought against the city by the Federal government and the division that it was causing. The others praised and thanked Jesus for his unburdening (a response that I heard to almost any burden, shared experience, or thanksgiving that the members of the group gave during the meeting). Another asked Christ to relieve him of his sorrow for a cri-

tically ill friend, someone else for Christ to console a recently bereaved family. When those of us who wanted to say aloud our burdens had finished, the leader made the transition from the first phase of the meeting to the next -- a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

He chose the story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8: 27-40), read it, and drew parallels with Father O'Neill's thoughts in his work, The Church and the Homosexual and with Mary Renault's novel of love between Alexander the Great and a eunuch in The Persian Boy. O'Neill wrote about the three types of eunuchs according to Christ: those born eunuchs (without sexual organs); those made eunuchs through castration; and those who chose to be eunuchs -- religious persons (priests, perhaps) and those who chose not to bear children -- homosexuals. The leader concluded his message with Jesus's statement that even eunuchs were welcome into the Kingdom of Heaven -- and that homosexuals would be, too.

The transition from the reading and analysis of Scripture to the sharing segment of the meeting flowed more smoothly than the first. When members share, their thoughts are Christ-centered and they speak of the thanks they give Christ for their experiences: good, or those perceived as other-than-good. One man, who, after attending the seven week seminar and making himself ready for his "baptism in the Spirit," was told that in the week or so before his new baptism, something unusual or strange could happen. "One night," he began, "about eleven o'clock my scalp began to itch. I started to scratch it, and then my face and the rest of my body began to itch. I almost went crazy. I had a red rash that I had never seen before or since. I called (a fellow charismatic) who came over and we prayed together. The itching subsided and the rash disappeared. I'd never felt anything like it. But I knew that the next Tuesday I would be baptized in the Spirit."

Another man had to deliver a sermon one Sunday. "Jesus helped it come out. I can't repeat it. I said, 'Spirit, it's up to you to do the talking.' Right after it was over, it was as if I had never done it. It was the Spirit working through me. I was much happier praying with everyone afterward; I felt much more comfortable."

A woman who works with a service organization had to deliver some bad news to a client. She was able to do it well, but asked herself later, "Where did I get this help? It's all a spiritual feeling, and I don't know where the words come from." She also works in an Irish-Catholic nursing home. When she first had to tell someone about a family member's death "I just said a prayer. The beautiful prayer that came out with them just wasn't mine."

A teacher in a parochial school was unclear when he was a student why the priests and nuns always began the day with a prayer to the Holy Spirit. Now that he teaches, "I start my day with the same little prayer. It's what gets me through the day and I know what the kids learn isn't just because of me."



A simple, moving hymn followed testimony. It was a song of continual daily praise to the Holy Spirit and Christ. The told me that they usually sing more, but with the absence of the man with the guitar they stopped after only one song.

Thanksgiving was next. Most people prayed aloud and thanked God in the presence of the group for gifts and made special requests of the Lord. Each petition was not followed with the traditional Anglican "Lord, have mercy" or "Hear our prayer." They used the forms with which they feel comfortable and which praise and thank Him. They vary with the individual and the occasion but the most common are "praise you, Jesus" and "thank you, Jesus." They actively acknowledge the acts of Christ.

We stood up at the closing, gathered in a tighter circle than before, linked hands and prayed the Lord's Prayer, said a Hail Mary and a Gloria. The leader asked if there was anyone present who would like to be prayed for by the rest of the group -- the "laying on of hands." No one did, but after Dignity House emptied and was locked I heard one man say to his lover, "I could feel that someone wanted to be prayed over."

(The Dignity Charismatic Group, founded in 1976, meets Tuesdays. The Holy Rosary begins at 7:45pm and the regular meeting at 8pm. Members want readers of this article to know that they are welcome to join in the community of the Holy Spirit with them each week. They plan to offer a seven week seminar on the charismatic movement beginning some time in September. If you are interested in either the group or the seminar, call Dignity House at 546-2096 between 6 and 9pm. The text for the seminar, Life and the Spirit, is available at Catholic information centers and bookstores.)

-- The next meeting of the Walt Whitman Democratic Club will be Thursday, September 6th at 8pm at Bob Richley's apartment, (#1105) in the Center City One building at Juniper and Spruce Streets. They are continuing to plan strategies for the November mayoral election. Contact Jeff Britton of the WWDC at 735-0904 for more about their activities. --

INTEGRITY, INC.'S STATEMENT ON THE WASHINGTON MARCH

A National march on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights is being planned for October 14th, 1979 in Washington, DC. After careful consideration, we have decided that this particular activity at this point in time is not a priority for us. Further, it does not seem to us to have sufficient focus to merit the diversion of resources that this effort would entail. Such a march would require major expenditures of time and resources which our organizations feel are more urgently needed elsewhere in the lesbian and gay communities, both locally and nationally.

We recognize different strategies and priorities exist within every movement. Therefore, our organizations will not oppose or interfere with this effort.



INTEGRITY/PHILADELPHIA

lesbian and gay Episcopalians and friends
an active local chapter of Integrity, Inc.
Box IP
St. Mary's Parish Office
3601 Locust Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19104
(215) 349-7214

David Lauer, Convenor
John Oswald, Acting Convenor
Ray Barber, Treasurer
Position vacant: Secretary
Don McCarthy, Program Director
NEWSLETTER COLLECTIVE
John Marquette (222-1666)
Jamie Spears

integrity/philadelphia

Fred P

NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER 1982

Congratulations to John Moore, who was elected Treasurer at the September business meeting to succeed David Lauer. The books are still in capable hands!

* * * * *

The October business meeting ratified our new Constitution, which is enclosed.

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The matter of incorporation will be raised at the November business meeting. If you have any questions about what incorporation means, or whether it is appropriate for us, please come and ask them then.

* * * * *

Oops! Because of a typing error, the name of the Convenor of Integrity/San Francisco was misspelled in our September Newsletter. He is the Rev. Richard Kerr.

* * * * *

Remember Integrity/Philadelphia's booth at Diocesan Convention; volunteers are needed to help staff it. Our presence there is an essential reminder to all those at the Convention of Integrity's mission and our commitment to that mission.

The Convention will be Friday October 22 and Saturday October 23 at the Church of the Saviour, 38th and Chestnut Sts.

* * * * *

With love,

Richard Keiser

Richard Keiser, President

CELEBRANT SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER:

Sat Oct 9—The Rev. Malcolm McGuire

Sat Oct 16—Guest celebrant

Sat Oct 23—The Rev. Russell Bechtel
(Diocesan Convention Weekend)

Sat Oct 30—The Rev. Rodger Broadley

Eucharists
are Saturday
at 8 p.m. at
252 S. 12th St.

On Nov 7, the monthly business meeting will follow the eucharist.

Constitution of Integrity/Philadelphia

I. Purpose.

Integrity/Philadelphia is a local chapter of Integrity/International, the gay and lesbian caucus within the Anglican communion.

Integrity/Philadelphia (hereinafter referred to as "the Chapter") exists to provide a Christian witness to the gay and lesbian community, and a gay and lesbian witness to the Christian community, specifically the Episcopal Church. The Chapter's geographical scope is the Delaware Valley.

II. Membership.

Membership in Integrity/Philadelphia shall be open to anyone who supports the goals of the organization; this shall include non-Episcopalians and heterosexual persons. Any such person who supports Integrity's goals and who has paid dues to the Chapter and to Integrity/International shall be considered a member of both.

III. Officers.

The Chapter shall have a President (also known as Convenor), a Treasurer and any other elective Officers deemed necessary by the Chapter membership and provided for in by-laws.

The Chapter shall have one or more Chaplains.

The Chapter shall hold at least one general business meeting per month.

Monthly business meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

IV. Elections.

Chapter Officers shall be elected for one-year terms.

Nominations for each office shall be taken at two consecutive monthly business meetings (not less than 21 days apart); the elections for each office shall be held at the second of the two such meetings.

Anyone who is a member of both the Chapter and Integrity/International and who has attended at least two Chapter meetings within the preceding year shall be entitled to vote.

If a vacancy occurs in a Chapter office between annual elections, then that vacancy shall be filled at the next business meeting; but if this is not practicable, then the vacancy shall be filled at the second business meeting following such vacancy.

A Chapter Officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of two consecutive business meetings (at least 21 days apart).

Chaplains shall be invited to serve by one of the Chapter Officers and approved by majority vote of a monthly business meeting. A Chaplain shall serve as long as he or she wishes unless a two-thirds vote of two consecutive monthly business meetings (at least 21 days apart) requests his or her resignation.

V. Amendments.

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members at a monthly business meeting. Any amendments must be proposed and submitted in writing at a monthly business meeting at least 21 days before such amendment may be ratified.

integrity/philadelphia

NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 1983

There was no December Newsletter, owing to various time pressures. The signal event that month for the Chapter was the visit of Juli Beatty, National Vice-President, who graced our Chapter meeting of the 11th; she also attended a meeting beforehand of our Long-Range Planning Committee. Her personalized report of the New Orleans Conventions and of the National Board meeting in Denver titillated our members, and the whole evening struck an ideal balance between business and pleasure.

* * * * *

Integrity/Philadelphia's Annual Planning Meeting will be held Saturday, January 22, 3-6 p.m. at Dignity House and will be followed at 8:00 by the regular eucharist. The Rev. Paul Woodrum, the Northeast Regional Director, will be visiting us for the occasion.

This is an opportunity for you to express your views about what you want the Chapter to be doing in the coming year! Please make every effort to attend.

* * * * *

Integrity/National's Board Meeting in Denver on November 5-7 made a number of important decisions. The Forum and the Clarion and Tattler will disappear in their present form and will be replaced by a new, combined, publication. (Personally, I much lament the demise of the Clarion and Tattler.)

The Canadian Chapters have separated to form their own national organization, a move that carries the support and best wishes of our National Board. Because of this structural change the proposed International Convention in Vancouver in 1983 will not be held. In the future, National Conventions will be held every third year (in the year preceeding General Convention), while Regional Conventions will be held during the remaining years. The 1984 National Convention is planned for New York.

* * * * *

At the December business meeting our Chapter formally approved the Rev. J.D. Hardison as our fifth chaplain. Joe was ordained in the United Presbyterian Church last October. The advent of our first non-Episcopal Chaplain was warmly received by our other clergy and by the Chapter as a whole. (Incidentally, the local branch of the Presbyterians for Gay Concerns is not active.) I suspect that Joe is the first non-Episcopal Chaplain of any Integrity chapter in the country, other than those combined with Dignity.

Bear in mind that our annual elections for Chapter officers are due for the March business meeting. (Nominations will be taken at both the February and March meetings.) Consider who you would like as President and Treasurer (or other offices, if the Planning Meeting recommends the creation of new ones.)

* * * * *

Best wishes to Bill West, who is on England until mid-May, teaching at Temple University's London campus.

* * * * *

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

Sat Jan 1--Weekly meeting. The Rev. Russell Bechtel, celebrant.

Sat Jan 8--The Rev. John Scott, Rector of St. Mary's Church, Hamilton Village, is celebrant.

Sat Jan 15--The Rev. Paul Harris is celebrant.

Sat Jan 22--Annual Planning Meeting 3-6 p.m. followed by the weekly eucharist at 8 p.m. The Rev. Philip Kunhardt, Rector of St. Asaph's Church, Bala Cynwyd, is celebrant.

Sat Jan 29--The Rev. Rodger Broadley is celebrant.

All meetings are at Dignity House, 252 S. 12th St.

Eucharists are at 8 p.m.

* * * * *

An important P.S. Thanks to Rodger Broadley and Doug McFarland for their hard work on behalf of Integrity for the New Years Eve Party sponsored by the four gay religious groups. The party was upbeat and very well attended.

Rich

Richard Keiser
President